

Improved Die Attach for Light Emitting Diode

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs).
10 More particularly, it pertains to a method of attaching the LED die to improve light output.

Art Background

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In use, Light Emitting Diode (LED) dies are packaged by mounting them to a substrate such as a printed circuit board (PCB) or a leadframe. The LED die is mounted to the substrate using a material such as an adhesive, often epoxy-based conductive adhesives, solder, solder paste, or eutectic alloys. When the die is
20 mounted, the mounting material naturally forms a fillet up the side walls of the LED die. Being opaque, the fillet blocks a portion of the light generated by the LED.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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By mounting the LED die on a pedestal smaller than the die, fillets formed by die attach material along the sides of the die are reduced or eliminated.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention is described with respect to particular exemplary embodiments thereof and reference is made to the drawings in which:

Fig. 1 shows an LED die mount,

Fig. 2 shows an LED die mount according to the present invention,

5 Fig. 3 shows an additional LED die mount according to the present invention,
and

Fig. 4 shows an additional embodiment of the present invention.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Fig. 1 shows a LED die mounted according to the prior art. Detail A shows die mount material **100** on substrate **110**. While the substrate shown in Fig 1 is flat, it
15 may be curved, such as a curved mount used for single LEDs. The die mount material may be an adhesive such as a conductive epoxy, or may be solder, solder paste, or a eutectic alloy as known to the art.

Detail B shows collet **130** supporting LED die **140**. Collet **130** may be
20 operated automatically or by hand. Detail C shows the collet and die moving to contact the substrate and die mount material.

Detail D shows LED die **140** affixed to substrate **110**, with fillets **150** of the die mount material flowing along the sides of LED **140**. The opaque nature of fillets
25 **150** blocks light ray **160**. This is a particular problem if the active PN junction of die **140** is near substrate **110** and subject to being blocked by fillets **150**.

According to one embodiment of the present invention as shown in Fig. 2,
Detail A shows die mount material **200** placed on pedestal **220** on substrate **210**.
30 Pedestal **220** is smaller in size than the LED die to be attached. Pedestal **220** may be formed through the stamping process in the case where substrate **210** is a leadframe. Pedestal **220** may be formed through a plating process in the case where substrate **210** is a printed circuit board (PCB). Pedestal **220** may also be a separate component attached to substrate **210**. The height of pedestal **220** is determined mainly by the

characteristics of die mount material **200**. The shape of pedestal **220** does not have to match that of die **240**. For example, both die **240** and pedestal **220** may be rectangular in shape. In other instances, die **240** may be square or rectangular, and pedestal **220** may be circular or oval.

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Detail B shows collet **230** supporting LED die **240**. Detail C shows the collet and die moving to contact the die mount material on the pedestal and substrate.

Detail D shows LED die **240** affixed to pedestal **220** and substrate **210**. Since pedestal **220** is smaller than die **240**, fillets **250** of mount material do not encroach on the sides of LED die **240**. Thus, light ray **260** is not blocked.

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It is also possible to first affix the pedestal to the die, and then affix the combined pedestal and pedestal to the substrate.

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Fig. **3** shows an embodiment of the present invention in which the substrate is curved, as in a leadframe. In this embodiment, leadframe **310** is formed with raised pedestal **320** to which LED die **340** is attached. As pedestal **320** is smaller than LED die **340**, fillets **350** of die attach material do not obscure the sides of LED die **340**, this allowing light ray **360** to pass. Also shown in Fig. **3**, the sides of pedestal **320** do not have to be normal to the substrate, or parallel to each other.

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Fig. **4** shows an additional embodiment of the invention in which pedestal **420** is formed as part of die **440**. The pedestal feature may be formed by mechanical means such as sawing, or by chemical means such as dry or wet etching.

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The foregoing detailed description of the present invention is provided for the purpose of illustration and is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise embodiments disclosed. Accordingly the scope of the present invention is defined by the appended claims.

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